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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/713,446	11/15/2000	VENKAT V EASWAR	TI-22423	3256

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EXAMINER

PENDERGRASS, KYLE M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 02/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/713,446

Applicant(s)

EASWAR, VENKAT V

Examiner

Kyle M Pendergrass

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: in **page 6, line 8** of the amended claims, it appears the connecting preposition "of" between "adding corresponding sections" and "said first data word" is missing. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: in **page 6, line 16** of the amended claims, it appears the word "thereby" between "saturated sum data word" and "forming a dither screen data word" is missing. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 6 is objected to because of the following informalities: in **page 8, line 23** of the amended claims, it appears the connecting preposition "of" between "adding corresponding sections" and "said first data word" is missing. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 6 is objected to because of the following informalities: in **page 8, line 31** of the amended claims, it appears the word "thereby" between "saturated sum data word" and "forming a dither screen data word" is missing. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

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Claim 1 recites the limitation "*said equal sections of a second data word*" in **page 6, lines 6-7** of the amended claims. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim for the second data word. It is not clear if the second data word uses said equal sections of the first data word or if the second data word has its own sections apart from the equal sections of the first data word.

Claim 1 recites the limitation "*said equal sections*" in **page 6, line 10** of the amended claims. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim for the selectively splittable ALU. It is not clear if these equal sections belong to the first data word or are for the ALU.

Regarding claim 1, in **page 6, lines 11-14** of the amended claims, the language is unclear in the following ways:

1) It is unclear in **line 11** if the applicant is claiming that the subject of saturation is any section of a sum data word that has generated a carry output, or if the applicant means to claim that any section of a sum data word is saturated, which in turn generates a carry output. In review of the claims, examiner suggests that the applicant change "sum data word generating a carry output" to "sum data word that has generated a carry output"

2) It is unclear in **lines 11-12** what the saturation does to the result in a section of all 1's section. Does it *create/form* a section of all 1's? Examiner suggests placing "form" between "said adding to" and "a section of all 1's"

3) It is unclear in **line 12** that the saturation to any section of said sum data word forms all 1's for *that* section. Please clarify.

Regarding claim 2, in **page 6, lines 5-6** of the amended claims, the language is unclear if the applicant is claiming that the subject of saturation is any section of a sum data word that has generated a carry output, or if the applicant means to claim that any section of a sum data word is saturated, which in turn generates a carry output. In review of the claims, examiner suggests that

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the applicant change "sum data word generating a carry output" to "sum data word that has generated a carry output."

Claim 3 recites the limitation "*said predetermined number of bits*" in **page 7, line 6** of the amended claims. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. It is not clear if the antecedent is "a predetermined number" or "a predetermined number of significant bits." Please clarify whether applicant is claiming right shifting bits by a *predetermined number* or if applicant is claiming right shifting a *predetermined number of bits*.

Claim 3 recites the limitation "*said predetermined number of 1's*" in **page 7, lines 7-9** of the amended claims. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. It is not clear if the antecedent is "a predetermined number" or "a predetermined number of 1's" Please clarify whether applicant is claiming a mask data word having a set number of 1's that equal a *predetermined number* or if applicant is claiming a mask data word having a *predetermined number of 1's*.

Claim 3 recites the limitation "*said shifted saturated sum data word*" in **page 7, lines 10-11** of the amended claims. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Please clarify that a *shifted saturated sum data word* is results from the right shifting of said sum data word.

Claim 4 recites the limitation "*said input pixel values*" in **page 7, line 2** of the amended claims. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 6 recites the limitation "*said equal sections of a second data word*" in **page 8, lines 21-22** of the amended claims. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim for the second data word. It is not clear if the second data word uses said equal sections of the

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first data word or if the second data word has its own sections apart from the equal sections of the first data word.

Claim 6 recites the limitation "*said equal sections*" in **page 8, line 25** of the amended claims. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim for the selectively splittable ALU. It is not clear if these equal sections belong to the first data word or are for the ALU.

Regarding claim 6, in **page 8, lines 26-29** of the amended claims, the language is unclear in the following ways:

1) It is unclear in **line 26** if the applicant is claiming that the subject of saturation is any section of a sum data word that has generated a carry output, or if the applicant means to claim that any section of a sum data word is saturated, which in turn generates a carry output. In review of the claims, examiner suggests that the applicant change "sum data word generating a carry output" to "sum data word that has generated a carry output"

2) It is unclear in **lines 26-27** what the saturation does to the result in a section of all 1's section. Does it *create/form* a section of all 1's? Examiner suggests placing "form" between "said adding to" and "a section of all 1's"

3) It is unclear in **line 27** that the saturation to any section of said sum data word forms all 1's for *that* section. Please clarify.

Regarding claim 7, in **page 9, lines 10-12** of the amended claims, the language is unclear if the applicant is claiming that the subject of saturation is any section of a sum data word that has generated a carry output, or if the applicant means to claim that any section of a sum data word is saturated, which in turn generates a carry output. In review of the claims, examiner suggests that the applicant change "sum data word generating a carry output" to "sum data word that has generated a carry output."

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Claim 8 recites the limitation "*said shifted saturated sum data word*" in **page 10, lines 17-18** of the amended claims. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Please clarify that a *shifted saturated sum data word* is results from the right shifting of said sum data word.

Regarding claim 8, in **page 9, lines 4-5**, it is unclear what is "filling". Please clarify what element(s) fill(s).

Regarding claim 8, in **page 9, lines 5-6**, please clarify what if the number at said input is a part of an input *to* the mask generator or if the number is stored *at* the input.

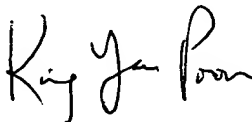
Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, see pages 11-18 of amendment, filed October 15, 2004, with respect to claims 1-8 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-8 has been withdrawn.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kyle Pendergrass whose telephone number is **(571) 272-7438**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, King Poon can be reached on **(571) 272-7440**.



**KING Y. POON
PRIMARY EXAMINER**